

SPORTS WEEK

B SECTION

DECEMBER 5, 2002



Photos courtesy of MEAC

Bethune-Cookman QB Allen Suber

B-CC's Suber and Mathis get MEAC top honors

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

GREENSBORO — Bethune-Cookman College quarterback Allen Suber and linebacker RaShean Mathis have been voted Offensive and Defensive Players of the Year by the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference head football coaches, sports information directors and selected media. Both were also selected to the 2002 MEAC All-Conference first team.

Suber guided the 2002 MEAC champion Wildcats to a 9-0 record, before an ankle injury kept him on the sideline in two of their last three games. He is now the MEAC leading rusher with 1,018 yards, 6.7 yards per carry average and a 101.8 per game average. Suber also finished sixth in the conference in passing, completing 77 of 143 passes for 1,232 yards and a 123.2 per game average. In total offense, he finished second with 2,250 yards and 225.0 per game average.

Mathis also played a major role in the Wildcats' championship run, breaking the national single season interception record with 14 this year.

He is now leading the country in interceptions, with a 1.17 per game average. He returned three for touchdowns this year, but he also scored twice on offense as a receiver. His most notable game was the N.C. A&T game (Nov. 2) when he scored the winning touchdown as a receiver in the final two minutes of the game, and with seconds on the clock, he intercepted a pass that sealed the victory. The Wildcats won that game 13-12.

Donald Hill-Eley guided the Morgan State Bears to their first winning season since 1979. The Bears finished tied for second with a 5-3 conference record and 7-5 overall.

The Offensive Lineman of the Year is Erik Steiner of Hampton University. The 6-3, 300-pound senior was instrumental in the success the Pirates had as championship contenders. They

See MEAC on B2

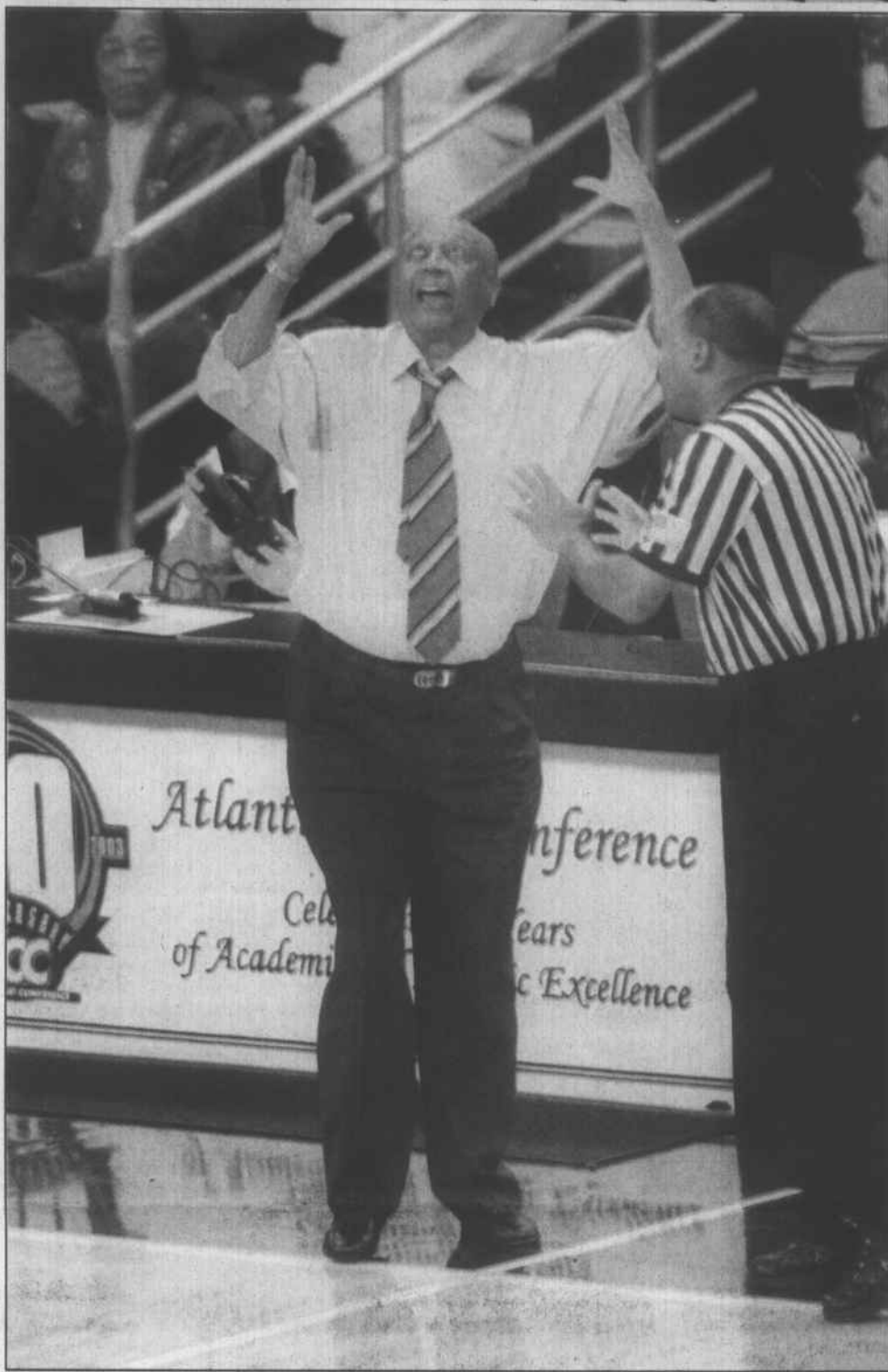


Photo by Bruce Chapman

Legendary Temple basketball coach John Chaney could not hide his frustration with his team's performance last week at Joel Coliseum. Chaney's squad lost to the Demon Deacons 83-76.

Lady Rams ink new talent

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Winston-Salem State University women's basketball program has announced that it has bolstered its roster for next season by signing four student-athletes who will join the team in August of 2003.

The Lady Rams have signed a pair of teammates in Sharonda Germany and Kadina Baldwin of Westover High School, as well as signing standouts Tierra Williams from Terry Sanford High School and Bobbie Barnes from Wilkes Central High School.

Germany, a 6-foot-0-inch forward, averaged eight points and nine rebounds during the 2001-02

season and looks to improve on those numbers this season. She has been a two-year starter on her varsity team and was named the Most Improved Player in 2000.

Baldwin, a 5-foot-5-inch point guard, and a teammate of Germany's, averaged an impressive 15 points, five assists, three steals and two rebounds per game last season. She has been a four-year starter on the Westover High varsity team, and she was named her team's Most Valuable Player in both her freshman year and sophomore year. Baldwin was also named to the Junior Olympic Team during the 1999-2000 season.

Williams, a 5-foot-8-inch guard/small forward, averaged 10

points, four rebounds, two assists and two steals last season and was named to her All-Conference Team. She has lettered in basketball three times and was named her school's Freshman Female Athlete of the Year in 1999. In addition to being an exceptional athlete, she is a standout student as she maintains a 4.4 GPA and is a member of the National Honor Society, the Ladies of Quality, and serves as president of the Spanish Honor Society.

Barnes, a swing player from Wilkes Central High School in Wilkesboro, averaged 11.8 points, 3.1 rebounds, 5.0 assists and 3.6 steals per game last season while shooting almost 50 percent from

See Lady Rams on B3

Rams lose to Bulldogs

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Winston-Salem State University men's basketball team hosted the Bowie State University Bulldogs Saturday in what was considered to be a mismatch to many followers of CIAA basketball. The Rams, who lost 96 percent of their offense from last year's team, which went 22-7 and again made the NCAA Tournament, were facing the most experienced team in the CIAA, the Bowie State Bulldogs, picked to finish first in the CIAA in the pre-season polls.

However, the Rams came out fighting and never gave up against a very big, formidable Bowie State lineup. The Bulldogs, fresh off of their 10 minutes of play versus Livingstone, a game that was postponed due to a thunderous Jon Smith dunk that shattered a Livingstone College backboard, came into the C.E. Gaines Center Saturday expecting a win. However, the Rams refused to let Bowie State earn a victory without a fight.

The Rams found themselves down by 15 points or more six times in the contest, yet clawed their way back to within five points in the game's closing minutes. Three WSSU players scored in double figures, with Vincent Sessoms leading the way for the Rams with 16 points. Robert Lee showed that he is one of the most exciting freshmen in the CIAA as he dropped in 13 points and collected six rebounds to help the Rams keep the Bulldogs within reach.

However, the play of Stephen Moss-Kelley sealed the victory for Bowie State. Moss-Kelley tallied 19 points to lead all scorers, as he torched the Rams on four-of-nine shooting from behind the three-point arch, with two of his big three-pointers coming in the game's final three minutes.

With the loss the Rams fall to 2-2 overall and 0-1 in the CIAA. The Rams will remain dormant until tomorrow when they travel to the Park Avenue Bank Winter Classic.

Bulls lament what might have been

BY HERBERT L. WHITE
CONSOLIDATED MEDIA GROUP

CHARLOTTE — Johnson C. Smith's season was filled with what-ifs.

What if injuries hadn't decimated the offense?

What if there was depth to replace the injured?

What if the kicking game was consistent?

Those questions plague 2-8 teams like the Golden Bulls, who lost close games to CIAA powers Bowie State, Virginia State and Virginia State by eight points or less.

"It's unfortunate 2-8 was what we could do because we're a much better team," coach Tim Harkness said.

Injuries had a major impact on Smith's struggles, especially on offense. At one point in the season, the Bulls were down to five linemen and a couple of receivers. With no running game to keep defenses honest, the Bulls had trouble moving the ball.

"That question always runs through my mind, but football is a game of contact and through contact injuries are going happen," said receiver Craig Brown, who was limited for three games with leg injuries. "It was unfortunate we didn't have the numbers to bring in guys for the hurt, but that goes along with the game."

See Bulls on B3

Reynolds hoping for fourth straight 4-A hoops title

BY SAM DAVIS
FOR THE CHRONICLE

It's much too early to tell just how the pieces of the puzzle are coming together for R.J. Reynolds High School in its quest to become the first team in the history of the N.C. High School Athletic Association to capture four consecutive state titles in basketball.

The Demons, ranked as the nation's No. 6 team by USA Today, return several key components from last year's team, which started slow before finishing in a flourish and capturing the state 4-A title.

The most notable of the returnees include Reyshawn Terry, who earlier this month signed a scholarship to play for the University of North Carolina next fall.

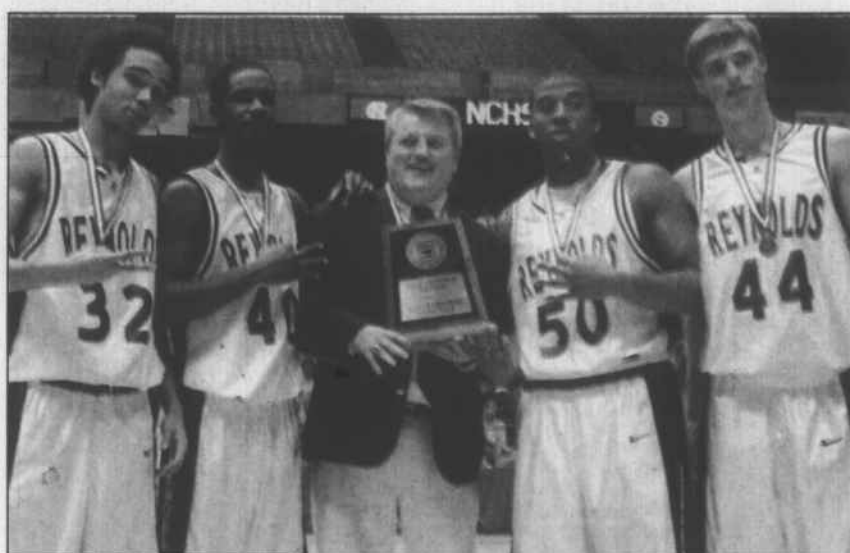
Terry, who averaged some 18 points, eight rebounds and five

assists for the Demons, is one of the players who make RJR one of the state's biggest teams.

Pivotmen Keith Foster (6-8) signed a scholarship with East Carolina next season, and Eddie Green (6-9) signed a scholarship with James Madison.

There's even more height with the return of 6-7 forward Justin Bohlander. And if that isn't enough, Reynolds also secured the services of Erikas Kaupaitas, a 6-7 Lithuanian transfer student, to help along the front line.

"Right now my biggest concern is our perimeter play," said coach Howard West, who has guided the Demons to a record of 151-23 over the past six seasons. "We've still got a lot of tweaking to do. We've got to develop our style because what we're doing now is probably not the best thing for us."



File Photo

See Reynolds on B3 Reynolds coach Howard West and players celebrate their last championship in March.